

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. In a shelving system having at least one horizontal shelf mounted, at opposite ends of the at least one shelf, to a pair of parallel and vertical spaced apart shelving standards, at least one shelf overlay mountable onto corresponding shelves of the at least one shelf, each shelf overlay comprising:

a rigid planar portion bounded by a front edge, an opposite rear edge, and opposite side edges,

a lip, orthogonal to said planar portion, is mounted along said front edge so as to extend from each said opposite side edges, said lip extending downwardly from said planar portion so as to substantially cover a front edge surface of a corresponding shelf when said shelf overlay is mounted onto the corresponding shelf, said lip extending upwardly from said planar portion,

mounting means for mounting said planar portion onto an upper surface of the corresponding shelf.

2. The shelf overlay of claim 1 wherein said mounting means includes an adhesive.

3. The shelf overlay of claim 1 wherein said mounting means includes a mechanical fastener.

4. The shelf overlay of claim 3 wherein said mechanical fastener is a latch arm fastened at one end of said latch arm to the corresponding shelf and fastened at an opposite end of said latch arm to said rear edge of said planar portion.

5. The shelf overlay of claim 4 wherein a recess is formed in said planar portion on said rear edge and said latch arm is fastened to said rear edge in said recess.

6. The shelf overlay of claim 5 wherein said latch arm is adapted to be horizontally pivotable about said ends of said latch arm relative to said rear edge and the corresponding shelf when said latch arm is being mounted to said rear edge and the corresponding shelf.

7. The shelf overlay of claim 2 wherein said mounting means further includes a mechanical fastener.

8. The shelf overlay of claim 7 wherein said lip is planar.

9. The shelf overlay of claim 7 wherein said lip is convexly curved in a horizontal plane.

10. The shelf overlay of claim 1 wherein said lip is planar.

11. The shelf overlay of claim 1 wherein said lip is convexly curved in a horizontal plane.